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Applicant(s): Teng Soon Wee et al.
Serial No.: 09/332,756
Filed: 14 June 1999
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING ABLATION-FREE MARKING ON HARD DISK MEDIA
Docket No.: 16864-0013
Examiner: Mr. Jonathan Johnson Group A.U.: 1725
Last Office Action: 28 August 2001 Paper No.: 9

Honorable Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action of 28 August 2001, please amend the above-entitled application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

5 1 (Amended). A laser apparatus for marking visible surface deformations on the surface of a multi-layered ~~workpiece~~ ^{hard disk} including an upper carbon layer, at least one intermediate metallic layer, and a lower metallic substrate, comprising:

10 (a) a laser generator for generating an unconditioned output laser beam;

15 (b) a beam conditioner responsive to said output laser beam including (i) a beam expander operative to generate an expanded laser beam and (ii) a beam collimator for collimating said beam;

 (c) a variable beam attenuator responsive to said expanded collimated beam and operative to generate a collimated conditioned marking beam;

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